

Letters to the editor

Reader appreciates reprinting Ford series

I felt like a small voice in the wilderness when I approached the *Coin World* bourse table at the Houston American Numismatic Association convention to suggest that you print John Ford's Numismatic Literary Guild talk, "When the Coin Business Was Fun."

I was very pleased that you covered it, especially because I missed the real thing while at the convention. Congratulations to *Coin World* for a fine job and to John J. Ford for a very entertaining article.

Jess Patrick
The Patrick Mint
Santa Rosa, Calif.

Distains service

In your Jan. 10 issue of *Coin World* you published a letter from G. D. Mylchreest, regarding the handling of his order for the \$100 gold coin by the Royal Canadian Mint. He expressed my sentiments exactly.

I had about the same experience except my order was mailed on Oct. 13, and I received my refund on about Dec. 12. Also, like G. D. Mylchreest, I cannot understand the long delay in notifying me and returning my money. I also saw that the Royal Canadian Mint had an order blank and ordering information in *Coin World* several weeks after I had sent my order in.

In the *Coin World* issue of about Nov. 1, I noticed an article in which they quoted one of the Royal Canadian Mint spokesmen who stated that at that time about half of the total of 200,000 coins authorized had been ordered.

It is my feeling that probably most of the Americans who ordered this coin did not have their orders filled. I could understand Canadian citizens being given preference in this matter, but I believe that they should state this in their ordering information.

I do not feel that I was treated fairly by the Royal Canadian Mint in this matter.

I would like to add that I have been a subscriber to *Coin World* for about 10 years and certainly enjoy and appreciate your publication. I might add I have much praise for the United States Bureau of the Mint regarding their quality, fairness and businesslike manner in which they conduct their affairs.

Thomas E. Pirtle Jr.
Lubbock, Texas

Another reader's woes

This is in response to a letter from G. D. Mylchreest in the Jan. 10, 1979, issue. I had the same problem with the Royal Canadian Mint with my order for their 1978 \$100 gold coin. I sent my order in on Oct. 14 and received my bank money draft back on Dec. 22. I immediately took it to the bank for my refund. They had to send it to another bank in Detroit and said it would be about two weeks before they would send the payment to them. Then they would notify me to come and pick up my money.

A week later, the bank called and said to come and get my money. When I did, my bank

informed me I had "lost money" on the deal and that I would receive my money back at the rate of exchange on the day they received the voided bank draft for payment. I was cheated out of \$15 because of the exchange rate.

I, too, am very suspicious as I assumed you could still order the coins. I had received an order form in the mail after the postal strike was over and sent it in. I was too late. If the Mint was sold out, they shouldn't send order forms for their coins. It was the second form I had received from them.

Congratulations on your fine paper. Keep up the good work.

Norman Weiner
Lincoln Park, Mich.

Playing favorites?

I am protesting the manner in which the Royal Canadian Mint has handled my order for their offering of the 1978 \$100 Proof "Unity" coin.

On Oct. 16, 1978, I mailed an order for one \$100 Proof coin with a form clipped from the then current RCM ad published in the latest issue of *Coin World*. I noticed that two weeks later, another ad by the RCM appeared in this publication, again soliciting orders.

I realize that orders from a government agency can take time, but I became concerned when by the middle of December, I had not received an acknowledgment nor cancellation of my order. I wrote to the Superintendent of the RCM asking the status of my order. Three weeks went by without the courtesy of a reply (which the U. S. Mint will give you when checking on a Proof set order.) Today (Jan. 8, 1979) I phoned the Canadian Mint. They said they were sorry, but my order was in the process of being returned because they were over-subscribed.

I must ask why the RCM kept running ads if they were unable to accept my order; why they were unable to let me know that I would not receive a coin; why the RCM Superintendent did not see to it that I received a reply to my inquiry; and why it took a phone call to find out the disappointing news.

No doubt other *Coin World* readers have had a similar experience with the RCM. I would suggest that *Coin World* not allow the Royal Canadian Mint to place advertisements that solicit orders for future deliveries of coin offerings. The RCM is anything but fair and efficient with the individual collector. I believe they allocated the "Unity" coin to friends and dealers, leaving the small collector empty handed.

Kenneth S. Petcher
Waltham, Mass.

Change bankers

I share reader Mylchreest's disappointment in having had rejection from the Royal Canadian Mint of an order for their 1978 \$100 gold coin. (*Coin World*, Jan. 10, 1979.)

Hobby owes great debt

When we learned Eric P. Newman was to be the recipient of the American Numismatic Society's 1978 Archer M. Huntington medal for his outstanding scholarly contributions, it struck us at once how the St. Louis scholar has held true to the Society's motto, *Parva ne pereant* (Let not small things perish.)

Like the Society's seal, too, a design showing an oak twig with acorns, Newman has spent a lifetime putting together small pieces of numismatic puzzles, working with tiny fragments of information, little acorns as it were. With tireless research he builds facts into giant oak trees of numismatic knowledge, nurturing each one into a

valuable resource of information available to all.

Although Newman modestly shares his honors with other researchers, agencies, collectors and dealers, without his diligence and love of the chase for the facts, much of what we know today would still remain to be discovered.

We owe a great debt to Eric Newman and join his fellow numismatists in offering our congratulations to him for an honor he says he will respectfully cherish. We will await eagerly word of his next project. There is surely one just around the corner—when he gets back from Antarctica!

The delay in return of one's check may well have been due to the backlog of mail resulting from the relatively prolonged Canadian postal strike. During this delay, there was a decline in the exchange rate for the Canadian dollar for which he sustained a \$15 loss at the time of check redemption. However, he misdirects blame on the Canadian Mint.

My local bank refunded the original check purchase price since the funds were in their hands, rather than a Canadian agency, during this delay period. It is suggested that reader Mylchreest change bankers.

Alvin C. Conway
St. Paul, Minn.

Appreciates write-up

Rev. John T. Wylie and myself wish to thank you for the recent article in *Coin World*.

For some unknown reason, occasionally my copy of *Coin World* as well as those of others living in this city arrive many days late. As some of the Eastern subscribers receive their copies on Friday and Saturday, believe it or not, there were several orders coming in, wishing to buy from one to four of our Wooden Shekels offered in the article. I had to await the copy to come on Thursday, to see it! That is fast mail service. Of course, there might have been one reason of the delay from Wednesday to Thursday, as we here in California were receiving our Sample Ballots on Wed., Oct. 18, for election Nov. 7.

It is interesting to note that orders from New York, Pennsylvania, Florida, Ohio, Colorado and several from California, are beginning to come in. This is a fun-raising project for our Wesley United Methodist Church. We are looking for many more orders to be filled.

Mrs. Viola Thomas
Sacramento, Calif.

Find missing relic

Thank you so much for bringing to our attention the Holocaust Exhibit reproduced by National Archives. Somehow we missed it!

During the war, the Germans ordered everybody to turn in all objects of metal, which they needed for their arms production. Among the objects, my late father gave, was a brass Menorah, which every Jewish family in Holland owned and used. After the war we were always on the look-out for an identical one, but to no avail.

Until a couple of weeks ago, we received a catalog from Numismatic and Antiquarian Service Corporation of America for a coin, medal and Judaica auction. We spotted a Dutch brass eight armed candelabra and we went down to look at it. We are now the owners of a miserable looking, corroded piece of brass, which was probably hidden in the ground during the Nazi-occupation.

However, we are very pleased with it because Chanuka, the festival of lights, symbolizes survival, courage and hope, and it is represented especially in this Menorah.

Julia Oppenheim
New York City

Editor's note: Mrs. Oppenheim's father was Maurice Frankenhuis, author, collector and cataloger of World War I-II medals and plaques. He gave his World War I collection to Museum Ha'aretz, Tel Aviv.

He and his wife and small daughters, Julia and Bertie, went into hiding in The Netherlands during World War II, but they were caught, arrested and imprisoned in Westerbork and Theresienstadt.

The family, which later came to America, is believed to be the only one to survive intact. Bertie is Dr. Bertie F. Argyris, the famous immunologist and urologist. Joseph and Aaron (Ronnie) Oppenheim are grandsons.

Wants REAL commem

Let's have a commemorative coin that pays tribute to a real All-American mother, the one who in one shuddering, blazing tragic hour gave five sons to her country's defense—meaning all of the U.S.

Where on earth do women have it better than here, thanks to one mother's sacrifice? Veterans' organizations, take note.

F. J. Beireis
Chicago, Ill.

Same old song

I wish to express my views concerning the new Susan B. Anthony mini-dollar. I feel it will create more problems than it will solve.

First, it will present a problem for the blind who use coins because it is easy to tell the denominations apart. The mini-dollar will feel a lot like the Washington quarter.

Second, the Treasury Department feels the new mini-dollar will in the near future eliminate the \$1 bill. I wish to remind you that the Treasury Department said the same thing when the \$2 bill was brought back into circulation. I hardly ever receive a \$2 bill in circulation.

Third, my opinion is I would rather carry five \$1 bills in my pocket than five mini-dollars. By the way, I prefer the Miss Liberty design over the Susan B. Anthony design.

Greg Krutz
Skokie, Ill.

The Mint says the new dollar is distinguishable from the quarter by touch as well as by sight. The design has an 11-sided inner boarder on both sides of the coin within the outer circular configuration. This design element is to provide a means for tactile recognition by the visually handicapped.—Editor.

Late suggestion

This is a little late but a good suggestion about the mini-dollar. I have thought of this for sometime.

I think the mini-dollar should be made out of bronze. If it were, we would have only two bronze coins in our coinage, a large one and a small one.

If it were made out of bronze, there would be no way to get the wrong identification between it and the clad 25-cent and 50-cent pieces. Also, all copper could be made more cheaply.

Albert I. Kiser
Ellettsville, Ind.

Anti mini-coin

In your Dec. 20, 1978 issue of *Coin World* you stated that the Treasury and the Mint are determined that the Susan B. Anthony dollar will be a success. Suppose that the rest of us determine that it will not be a success, since the whole deal was put over on us.

Recently, on Talk Radio, Los Angeles, Madelyn O'Hair said that Susan B. Anthony was an atheist just like she herself is. If this is true, why not put both of them on the new dollar with the motto, "In God, we don't trust."

As far as I'm concerned, Reno, Lake Tahoe and "Lost Wages," Nevada, can have all of them.

A. Fischbach
San Gabriel, Calif.



"My brother-in-law was supposed to be here but he wouldn't leave his coin collection."

Publisher
J. OLIVER AMOS

Executive Editorial Director
JOHN O. AMOS

Editor
MARGO RUSSELL

News Editor
FRED REED

Feature Editor
JAY GUREN

Editorial Staff
JANE HUTCHINS
PAT BOERGER
WILLIAM T. GIBBS
SHARON THAMAN

International Editors
COURTNEY L. COFFING
DAVID T. ALEXANDER

Clearinghouse
MARILYN TIERNAN

Librarian
DORTHEA GETROST

Coin World
THE WEEKLY NEWSPAPER OF THE ENTIRE NUMISMATIC FIELD

P.O. Box 150
911 Vandemark Road
ISSN 0017-0447
Sidney, Ohio 45367

Vice-President, Advertising
WAYNE LAWRENCE
Advertising Manager
THOMAS EHLE

Asst. Ad Manager
CHARLES WILSON

Advertising Staff
WILLIAM HAMPTON
EVELYN FAIR

Customer Service Mgr.
BRENDA WYEN
Circulation Fulfillment
RON WATKINS

Subscription Services
TOOTIE ALEXANDER

Numismatic Illustrator
F. MORTON REED

A Division of Amos Press, Inc.

Also Publishers of The Sidney Daily News, Gun Week and Linn's Stamp News

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: \$15.00 for 52 Weekly issues per year, in U.S.; all other countries, \$30.00 per year in U.S. funds. All subscriptions are cash in advance. **AIRMAIL SUBSCRIPTION AVAILABLE.** Write for rates.

ADVERTISING RATES: Display and Classified Rates shown elsewhere. Write ad manager for low contract rates.

OPINIONS expressed in any signed column appearing in *Coin World*, including those of staff members, reflect the views of the writer only. The opinions may or may not be in agreement with those of *Coin World*.

PUBLICATION MAIL ADDRESS:
P.O. Box 150, Sidney, Ohio 45367.
Phone 513-492-4141; Cable Address COIN WORLD, Sidney, Ohio.

SECOND CLASS postage paid at Sidney, Ohio 45367. USPS No. 120700.

NEWS ITEMS, articles and photographs pertaining to coins and coin collecting are welcomed. However, unsolicited material cannot be acknowledged nor returned unless accompanied by return postage and self-addressed envelope. We cannot be responsible for coins sent unsolicited but every safeguarding effort will be taken.